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## PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

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[Reports to the Surgeon-General, Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.]

*Summary of work in Chinatown for the week ended October 17.*

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., October 19, 1903.

WYMAN, Washington:

Following is record of work in Chinatown for week ended October 17:

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Buildings reinspected.....                       | 138   |
| Rooms .....                                      | 835   |
| Persons inspected .....                          | 1,381 |
| Sick .....                                       | 39    |
| Sick prescribed for at Oriental Dispensary ..... | 7     |
| Dead examined .....                              | 7     |
| Necropsies .....                                 | 3     |
| Rats examined bacteriologically .....            | 29    |
| Number showing pest infection .....              | 0     |
| Places limed and disinfected .....               | 786   |
| Times streets swept .....                        | 3     |
| Sewers flushed .....                             | 22    |
| Sewers baited with rat poison .....              | 12    |
| Notices served to abate plumbing nuisances ..... | 34    |
| Nuisances abated .....                           | 7     |
| Number undergoing abatement .....                | 34    |
| Total number of plumbing inspections .....       | 132   |

BLUE.

*Inspection service, Mexican border—Yellow fever at Laredo and other points in Texas and Mexico.*

LAREDO, TEX., October 15, 1903.

WYMAN, Washington:

New cases to-day, 27; deaths, 1; houses disinfected, 22, with 85 rooms; 242 containers, 40 premises and 2,000 square feet standing water oiled; 33 spigots put in water barrels; 114 premises, covering 16 city blocks, inspected. Maximum temperature, 94°; minimum, 70°. Nuevo Laredo reports 6 new cases; no deaths. No report obtainable from Minera.

GUITERAS.

WASHINGTON, October 16, 1903.

HUME, Eagle Pass, Tex.:

Referring to yours, 13th, requesting autoclave and carboy, Bureau has sent you four formaldehyde lamps, with ample supply of wood alcohol. Bureau is not buying any more autoclaves and expects you to use formaldehyde lamp, which is considered the most recent and efficient method of disinfecting with formaldehyde. If you have any trouble, wire what it is.

WYMAN.

WASHINGTON, *October 16, 1903.*GUITERAS, *Laredo, Tex.:*

Regarding expenditures, Bureau understands you are wiring each time any important one is made or contemplated. Am mailing you blanks for weekly and semiweekly reports, in order that scope of expenditures may be made plain. Bureau feels you are using due discretion in the matter.

WYMAN.

LAREDO, TEX., *October 16, 1903.*WYMAN, *Washington:*

Regarding your telegram of to-day, Bureau has been informed by wire of all important expenditures made.

GUITERAS.

LAREDO, TEX., *October 16, 1903.*WYMAN, *Washington:*

New cases to-day 31, deaths 1, houses disinfected 24, with 77 rooms, 334 containers and 5 excavations oiled, 36 premises sprinkled, 252 premises inspected, covering 22 city blocks, 41 faucets put in water barrels. Maximum temperature, 76°; minimum, 50°. No report received from Nuevo Laredo or Minera. Consul Garrett continues critically ill.

GUITERAS.

WASHINGTON, *October 17, 1903.*GUITERAS, *Laredo, Tex.:*

E. H. R. Green wires request from Dallas, Tex., that disinfecting squad be sent from Laredo to Minera for purpose screening and fumigating; that conditions among miners there becoming serious. Confer with Tabor concerning disinfection Minera.

WYMAN.

LAREDO, TEX., *October 17, 1903.*WYMAN, *Washington:*

Have already arranged with Tabor to send Dinwiddie with Thompson, of Tabor's medical staff, to Minera Monday morning for screening and disinfecting.

GUITERAS.

LAREDO, TEX., *October 17, 1903.*WYMAN, *Washington:*

New cases to-day 22, deaths 3, 22 houses disinfected, with 75 rooms, 393 containers oiled, 51 premises and 15 excavations sprinkled, 6 barrels of crude oil sprinkled in open lots and streets, 203 premises inspected, covering 35 city blocks. Maximum temperature, 83°; minimum, 44°. New Laredo reports 3 new cases and 1 death. Minera, up to yesterday, reports a total of 90 cases and 5 deaths. I look for a marked diminution in the number of cases in the next few days as a result of the work being done and the favorable weather.

GUITERAS.

EL PASO, TEX., *October 18, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

Have tightened inspection here, all passengers from Mexico now required to make affidavit they are not from infected districts. State quarantine officer here informs me officially that persons five days from yellow-fever districts can be admitted without further detention. Am cooperating with him. Everything going smoothly.

LUMSDEN.

LAREDO, TEX., *October 18, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

13th, visit many and confirm 7; 14th, confirm 15 (also), with Consul Garrett; 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th, make some visits in Laredo. Consul Garrett will recover. Have spent five nights and four days with him. Subject of future letter.

MURRAY.

LAREDO, TEX., *October 18, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

New cases to-day 20, deaths 6; houses disinfected 11, with 55 rooms; 160 containers oiled, 42 premises sprinkled, and 18 faucets put in water barrels; spigots or faucets are put in all barrels that are covered with oil; 82 premises inspected, 7 barrels of crude oil sprinkled on vacant lot and intervening streets. Maximum temperature 80°, minimum 48°. No report from New Laredo. Pharmacist Goodman leaves for Minera to-morrow morning with disinfecting gang.

GUITERAS.

LAREDO, TEX., *October 19, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

Tabor requests immediate presence of Murray in San Antonio. Murray leaves to-morrow morning. Reports received here state 2 cases yellow fever at that place.

GUITERAS.

LAREDO, TEX., *October 19, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

Tabor reports as follows: Hondo case positive; isolated; no stegomyia in neighborhood; origin being investigated.

GUITERAS.

LAREDO, TEX., *October 19, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

Worked in Laredo all day. Will be in San Antonio at noon 20th in response to Tabor's request to Guiteras.

MURRAY.

LAREDO, TEX., *October 19, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

New cases to-day 36, deaths 5; houses disinfected 16, with 54 rooms; 136 containers and 2 excavations oiled, 70 premises sprinkled, 102 premises inspected covering 20 city blocks, 12 faucets applied, 15 barrels of crude oil sprinkled on 40 blocks of vacant lots and inter-

vening streets. Maximum temperature 83°, minimum 41°. One case and 1 death supposed to be from yellow fever at Connell, a mining camp 2½ miles this side of Minera. Will investigate to-morrow.

GUITERAS.

EL PASO, TEX., *October 20, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

Far as ascertainable, no travel recently through here from infected districts. Inspection work going smoothly.

LUMSDEN.

HOUSTON, TEX., *October 20, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

Local conditions remain good.

EBERSOLE.

LAREDO, TEX., *October 20, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

New cases reported to-day, 36; deaths, 2. Investigation shows that only 13 of the new cases can be credited to the last twenty-four hours; the balance are old cases discovered to-day. Houses disinfected, 13, with 51 rooms; 244 containers and 1 excavation oiled; 67 premises sprinkled, covering 19 city blocks; 29 spigots put in barrels; 15 barrels of crude oil sprinkled on vacant lots and intervening streets, covering 15 blocks; maximum temperature, 80°; minimum, 47°. New Laredo reports 8 new cases and 1 death for yesterday and 4 new cases and 4 deaths to-day. Inspected Connell and Minera and found 1 case at Connell of uncertain origin; proper precautions taken. Connell is a mining camp 3 miles this side of Minera; population about 1,000. Minera has had 96 cases with 7 deaths. There are about 40 cases now under treatment. Goodman is rapidly pushing disinfection of Minera. No train arrived to-day from San Antonio. Have heard nothing new from there.

GUITERAS.

EAGLE PASS, TEX., *October 21, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

County authorities, Mexican health officer at C. P. Diaz, and at mass meeting citizens here to-night all request Service, through me, to take in full charge and enforce rigid quarantine against San Antonio, holding all individuals from there five days. This will entail considerable expense. Will need more tents and 15 more guards, besides cook and matron. Fair now going on in San Antonio. At least 150 persons will arrive on train to-morrow. Service should handle the quarantine. Advise at once Bureau desires. Cold weather already here, and quarantine will not last long.

HUME.

EAGLE PASS, TEX., *October 21, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

Maverick County quarantined against San Antonio account three deaths yellow fever to-day. County authorities request service and desire use of camp for detention of passengers. Wire if I shall cooperate with county.

HUME.

EAGLE PASS, TEX., *October 21, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

Kindly authorize Hume cooperate with county quarantine against San Antonio.

R. N. LANG,  
*County Health Officer.*

WASHINGTON, *October 22, 1903.*

HUME, *Eagle Pass, Tex.:*

Telegram 21st received this morning. Bureau can not undertake preventive measures at noninfected cities and towns, its operations being at seat of infection and border. You are authorized, however, to cooperate with local or county authorities in their protective measures against Texas points with such materials and force, including mosquito netting, as you have on hand. Same action was taken at Corpus Christi and Brownsville.

WYMAN.

OCTOBER 22, 1903.

County Health Officer LANG,  
*Eagle Pass, Tex.:*

Replying to yours 21st, see telegram to Hume this day.

WYMAN.

WASHINGTON, *October 21, 1903.*

MURRAY, *San Antonio, Tex.:*

Wire what measures are being taken to prevent spread.

WYMAN.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., *October 21, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

Your telegram of 21st received. Medical society, 60 members, met and indorsed diagnosis and proffered support. Listened to addresses by Tabor and Murray; promised to screen all fever patients promptly, as ordered by city board. To-day 1 new case reported, not yet acted on. Medical inspectors are acting in the suspected districts. Visitors at international fair to go home and be subject to six days' observation if home towns will admit them. While there is reason to believe yellow fever has existed for a month, the profession and authorities are impressed with the importance of prompt action. Both city and county authorities assure all needed funds. \* \* \*

MURRAY.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., *October 21, 1903—5 p. m.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

Board conference held 4 (p. m.). Will write soon. All fever cases to be barred by physicians before prescribing. Daily reports require known houses to be treated for mosquitoes, and all adjacent houses likewise. Tabor to Laredo tomorrow. Will return to supervise. Murray will remain here till 24th. \* \* \* The local conditions favor the control of the disease. \* \* \*

MURRAY, *Surgeon.*

WASHINGTON, *October 21, 1903.*

MURRAY, *San Antonio, Tex.:*

Remain San Antonio until Richardson arrives. Will then wire you again. Wire daily until arrival of Richardson.

WYMAN.

WASHINGTON, *October 21, 1903.*

RICHARDSON,

(Through commanding officer, Marine Hospital, New Orleans, La.):

If Wertenbaker has returned, proceed immediately to San Antonio. Murray wires 3 cases, but does not fear spread. Report your address and wire all information soon as possible after arrival. Confer first thing with Doctor Tabor and local board.

WYMAN.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., *October 21, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

Orders received, Wertenbaker arrived. Leave to-morrow for San Antonio.

RICHARDSON.

LAREDO, TEX., *October 21, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

Send ten clinical thermometers.

GUITERAS.

LAREDO, TEX., *October 21, 1903.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

Thirteen cases reported to-day. Only 8 of these are new. Five are old cases just come to light. The situation is encouraging, although these hidden cases interfere with efficiency of our work. Deaths reported, 4. Twenty-eight houses disinfected, with 84 rooms. Two hundred and thirteen containers and excavations oiled. Forty premises sprinkled. One hundred and fifty premises inspected, covering 21 city blocks. Twenty-one barrels of crude oil sprinkled on vacant lots and intervening streets, covering 10 city blocks. Fifteen faucets put in water barrels. Maximum temperature, 83°; minimum, 47°. Minera reports 2 new cases and 1 death. Goodman returned to-night after completing disinfection of Minera—excellent work. No report from New Laredo. Murray reports 13 cases at San Antonio, and 2 positive autopsies and 1 presumable. Tabor reports 1 case at Castroville originating in San Antonio.

GUITERAS.

*Smallpox in Jefferson County, W. Va.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
PUBLIC HEALTH AND MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,  
*Washington, October 15, 1903.*

SIR: (Through Assistant Director Hygienic Laboratory.) I have the honor to submit the following report on the eruptive disease in Jefferson County, W. Va., concerning the nature of which there was contention between the county health officer and the attending physicians; the former stating that the disease was smallpox and the latter that it was chicken pox.